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The Pearl Grudge

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Transcendence

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AUTHOR'S NOTE:

..... "OH HAHA, HOW WONDERFUL!!" .....

"The Pearl Grudge" is finally up to volume 3 To me, this is a very rare thing! Because, the longest manhua that I've ever written ended at volume 2. Sigh... However, this time I will try my best to create a middle-length manga

Thank you readers for your support!

STAR GIRLS COMICS

珍珠怨

參

漫畫：歌碧鳳
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STAR GIRLS COMICS

珍珠恋 参

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人生自是有情癡　隻影孤樓與誰鄰

珍珠怨

漫畫■歐碧鳳

●重陽出遊，分配至簡陋牛車內的綠珠不慎跌落車外，群家誤以為綠珠是延壽花仙，進而包圍綠珠強索避邪花，幸好石崇想到以扔擲黃金珠寶之妙計，解救綠珠。一日，司馬倫政變，挾天子以令諸侯，此時石崇怕惹來殺機，邀約司馬倫設宴金谷園。宴會上，司馬倫對石崇表明不只要兵馬糧草，還要她心愛的綠珠……

Transcendence

珍珠冤

漫畫◎歐碧鳳

編劇◎巫曼綺

前情提要

Shi Chong
(also named Jilun)

Murong
(Shi Chong's loyal servant)

Luuzhe
(Pearl diver from the Southern Sea)

Xia Jia
(Shi Chong's mistress)

Si Ma Lun
(Lord Zhao)

Sun Xiu
(on Lord Zhao's side)

Song Wei
(Luuzhu's loyal servant)

Wang Kai
(on Lord Zhao's side)

五代西晉，一段關於富豪石崇與愛妻綠珠的悲戀。

月夜綠珠州，石崇在海邊邂逅了採珠女綠珠，初次見面的兩人，彼此一見傾心。而後石崇得知綠珠已被父母賣給州牧洪大人做妾，於是私用年貢以明珠三斛買下綠珠，殊不知此舉為日後埋下禍端。

石崇為綠珠大興庭院，對她極度寵愛，沉想到另一竟去費任心機忌妒，為了爭寵竟企圖陷害綠珠。另一方面，綠珠傾國傾城的美貌，早已傳遍整個洛陽府邸，眾多的追言顧妥無不想一窺綠珠的廬山真面目…。

綠珠的善良純真，讓石崇深深為她動情，甚至不惜讓性自己也要保護她；然而對綠珠來說，石崇陰晴不定的關愛，反倒她懷疑石崇是否真心待她。

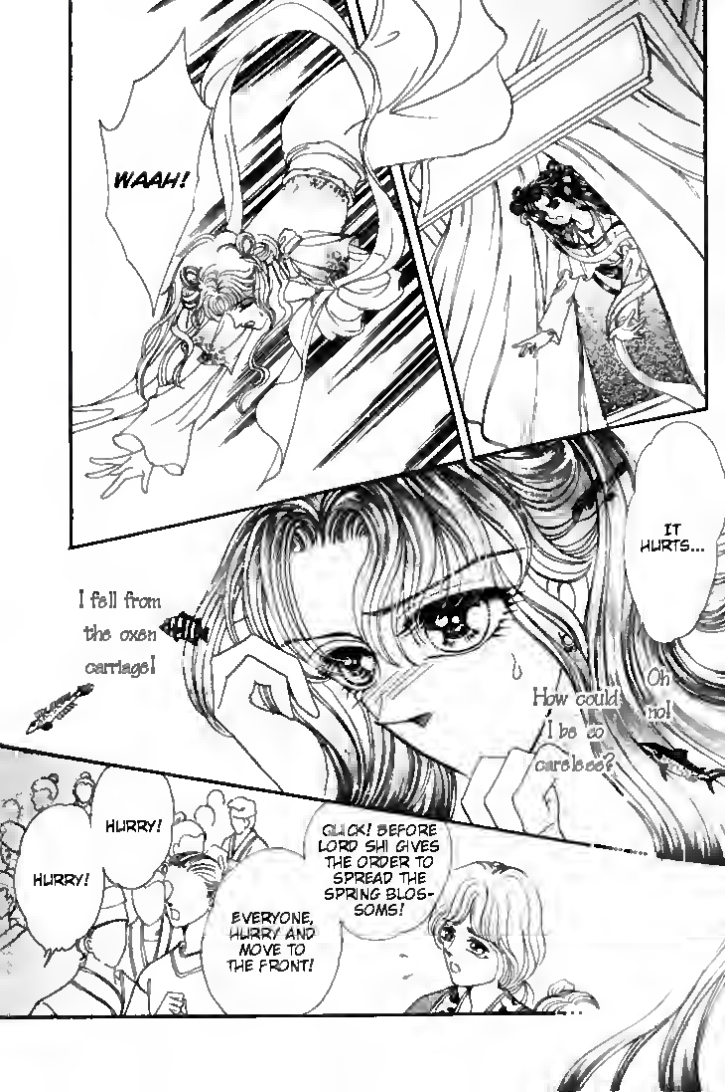
重陽出遊，石家排場浩大，為顧及綠珠的安危，石崇要綠珠選貴住為延年花仙，此刻不知情的綠珠失落感湧上心頭……

MY LORD, THE TIME HAS COME.
THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU TO SPREAD THE SPRING BLOSSOMS.
Hihihi...
Hihihi...
Hihihi...
You're hallucinating! Impossible!
It must be an illusion!
Just then...

Whoosh...
How could Jilun notice me?
It's probably just a coincidence.
IT'S BEEN DELAYED FOR SUCH A LONG TIME...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL?
HMPH!

IS SHE THE FAIRY WHOM YOU WANTED TO SEE?
MOM! THERE'S A VERY BEAUTIFUL LADY HIDING IN THAT CARRIAGE!
Huh?
HOW COULD THAT BE POSSIBLE...
It's real
WATCH WHAT YOU SAY!
SILLY CHILD!
AH...
CRASH
Bump...

AH...!
LULUZHU-JIE, BE CAREFUL...


WAAH!
IT HURTS...
I fall from the oxen carriage!
How could I be so careless?
Oh no!
HURRY!
HURRY!
EVERYONE, HURRY AND MOVE TO THE FRONT!
CLICK! BEFORE LORD SHI GIVES THE ORDER TO SPREAD THE SPRING BLOSSOMS!

AH...
HOW BEAU-TIFUL...
They are...
?
LORD SHI HAS DELAYED SPREADING THE FLOWERS FOR SO LONG..
PERHAPS THIS LADY IS THE REAL FAIRY YANSHOU?

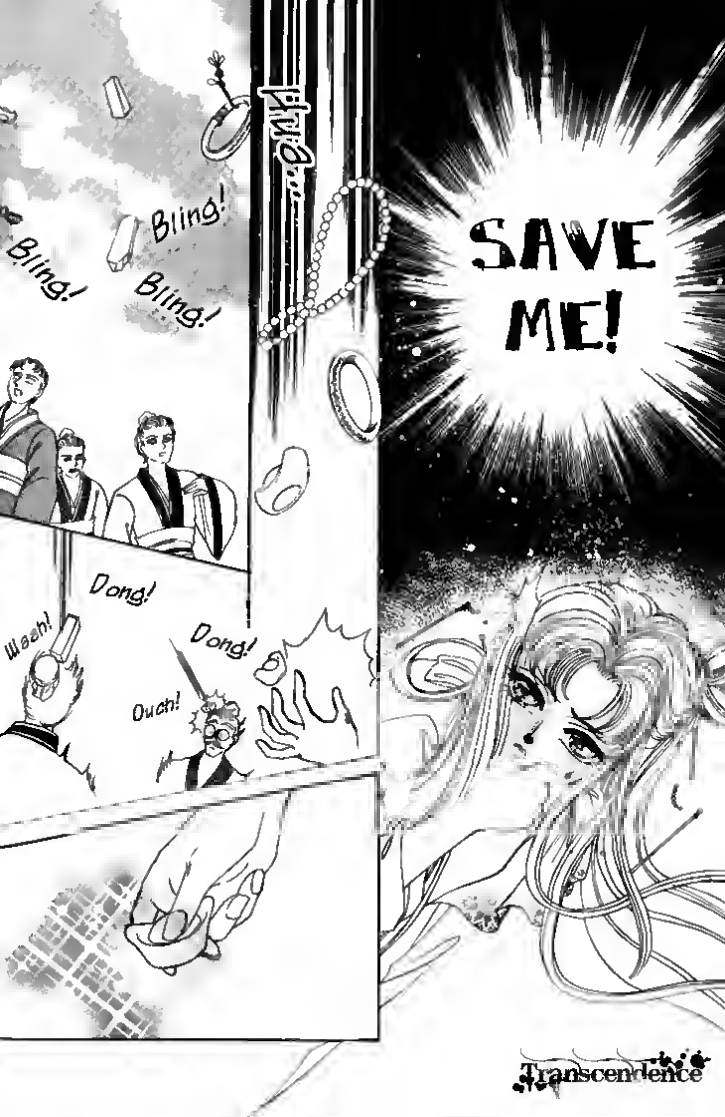
What?
Approaching...
FAIR...
FAIRY, PLEASE BLESS US!
THIS YEAR, I WILL DEFINITELY SEIZE THE AUSPICIOUS FLOWER!
Hm...
THE REAL FAIRY YANSHOU IS ACTUALLY OVER THERE!
EVERYONE HURRY UP AND COME!
Hm...

LULUZHU-JIE,
HURRY AND HIDE INSIDE THE CARRIAGE...
PLEASE GRANT ME GLORY AND WEALTH!
PLEASE BESTOW HARMONY UPON MY FAMILY!
YOU HAVE IT ALL WRONG,
I AM NOT...

NeverFade

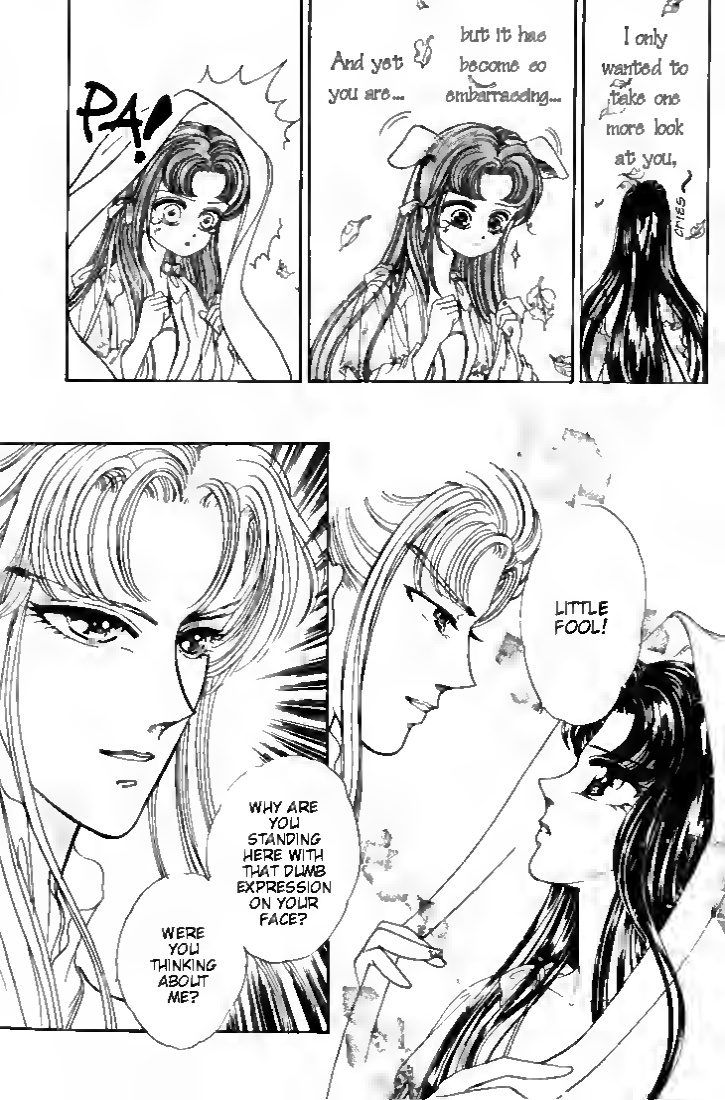
THE CROWD IS MOVING IN A WEIRD DIRECTION...
HUH?
SHE'S OVER THERE!
OVER THERE!
HUA HUA HUA...
MY LORD!
MY LORD!
IT'S BECAUSE..
MURONG, WHAT HAPPENED? WHY ARE YOU SO WORRIED?
SIR MU!

WHAT? LULIZHU FELL FROM THE OXEN CARRIAGE,
AND IS BEING SURROUNDED BY PEASANTS WHO WANT THE AUSPICIOUS FLOWER!
YES...
IT'S ALL YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT'S FAULT, FAILING TO PROTECT HER PROPERLY...
The peasants of Luoyang would do anything to get the Auspicious Flower. It's not rare to have a few people killed by the mob...
...
Scan By MKS


Bling!
Bling!
Bling!
Bling!
SAVE ME!
Dong!
Dong!
Waah!
Ouch!

Eeeh?
This isn't an ordinary rock,
This is...
WHO IS SO IMMORAL TO THROW A BUNCH OF ROCKS AT US?
If I catch him I definitely won't forgive him!
?
Hua Hua Hua...
GOLD!
IT'S GOLD!
GOLD IS RAINING FROM THE SKY!

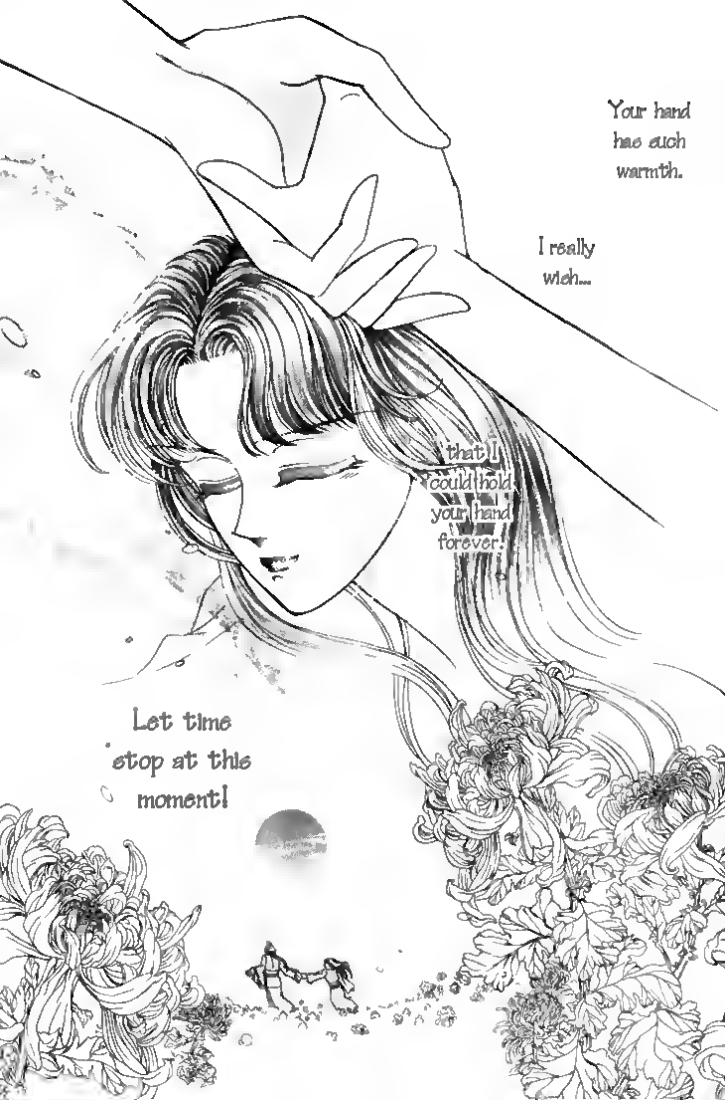
This...
What's going on?
COULD IT BE HIM?
Bling!
Bling!
Bling!
Jilin...
Is it always this difficult to get a glance at your face?


PA!
And yet you are...
but it has become so embarrassing...
I only wanted to take one more look at you,
SNIFF
WERE YOU THINKING ABOUT ME?
WHY ARE YOU STANDING HERE WITH THAT DUMB EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE?
LITTLE FOOL!

*TN Thirty-Six Strategies = Ancient China's war strategies

Hua Hua...
RUNNING AWAY, THE BEST STRATEGY OF ALL!
Hua!
JILLIN..

Jilin...
Pant...
Pant...
Pant...


Your hand has such warmth.
I really wish...
that I could hold your hand forever!
Let time stop at this moment!

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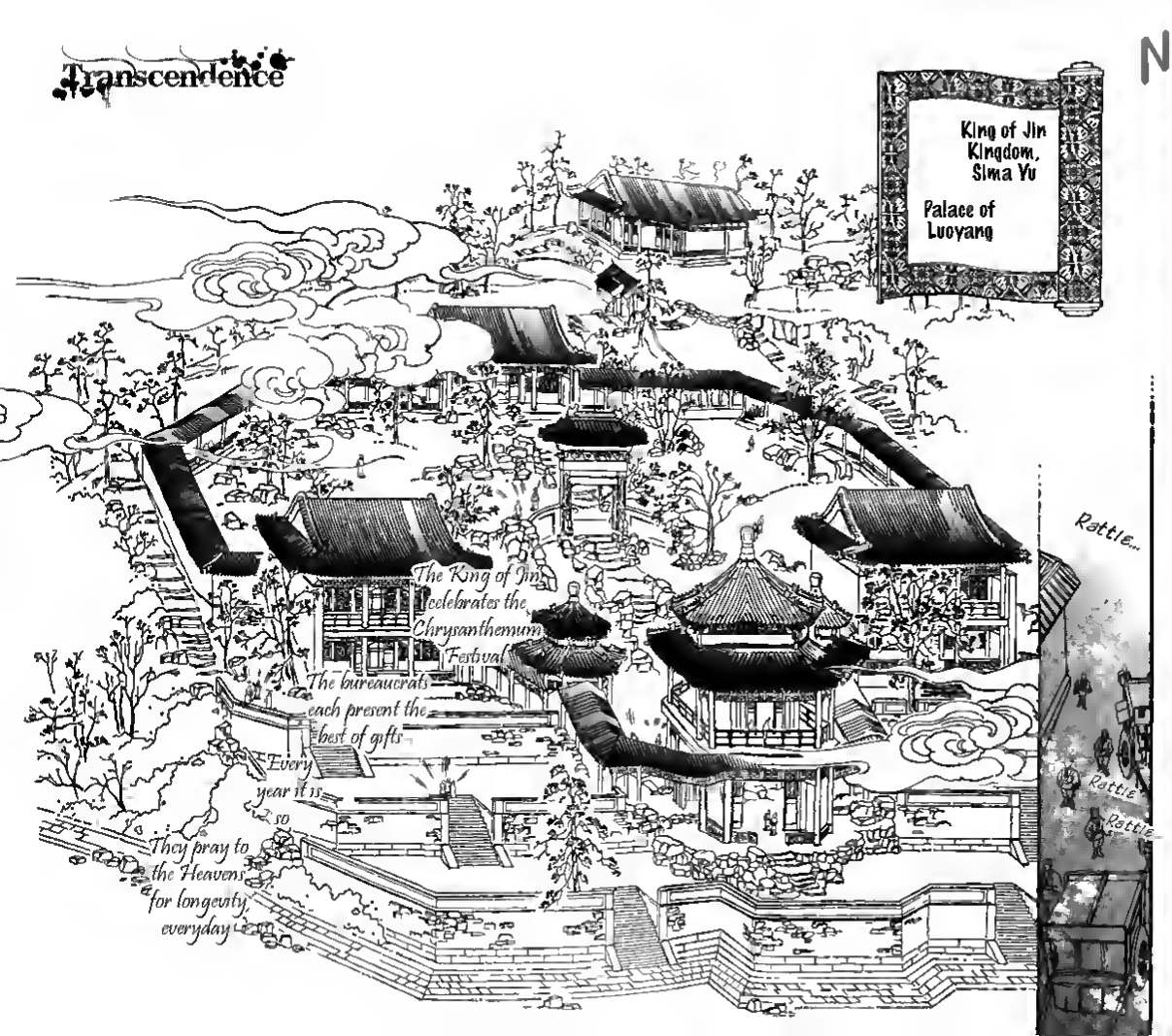
King of Jin Kingdom, Sima Yu
Palace of Luoyang
The King of Jin celebrates the Chrysanthemum Festival
The bureaucrats each present the best of gifts
Every year it is so
They pray to the Heavens for longevity everyday
Rattle...
Rattle
Rattle

Never Fade
Hua
Hua
Hua...

HIS MAJESTY, AND HER HIGHNESS HAVE ARRIVED!
Queen of Jin
Jia Nan-feng
King of Jin
Sima Yu
T/N Historical figures, though inaccurately depicted in the story. They shouldn't be married. She was his step mother.

HEY! LOOK!
WITH THE QUEEN HERE, THE AIR IS CERTAINLY DIFFERENT!
THIS TIME, THE PEOPLE ON THEIR RIGHT SIDE ARE ALL FROM THE JIA CLAN.
THE SIMA CLAN IS ALL SITTING ON THE LOWER LEFT SIDE!
His quest of honor,
Shi Chong
Jia Tan
Sima Lun
King of Zhao
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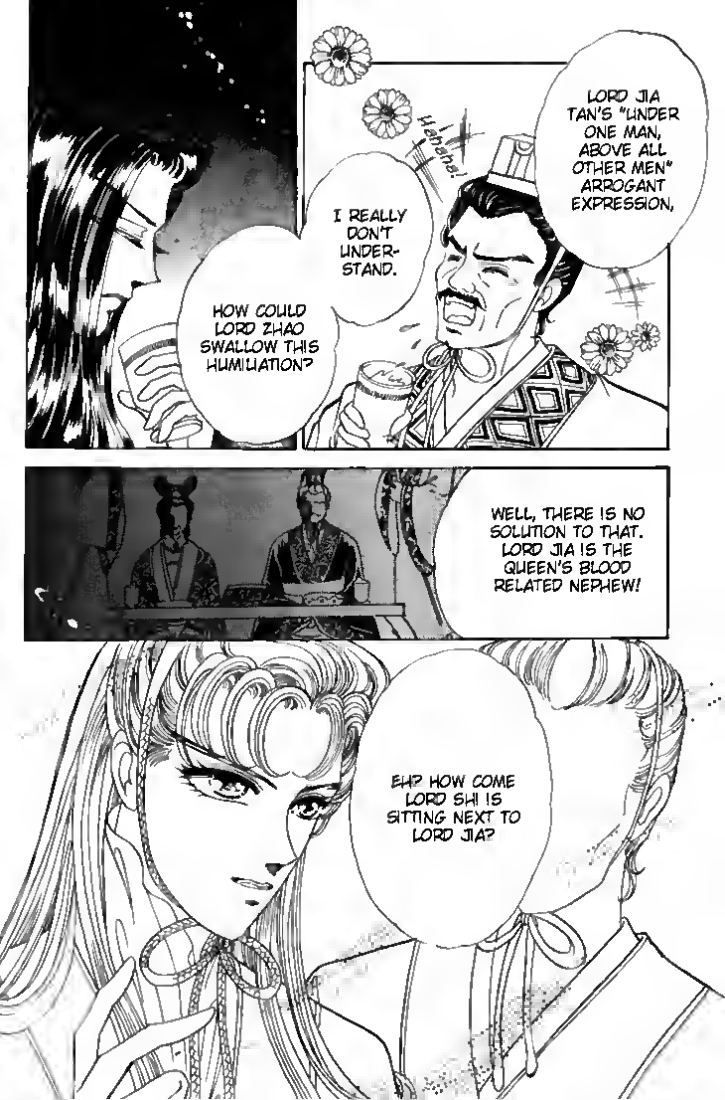
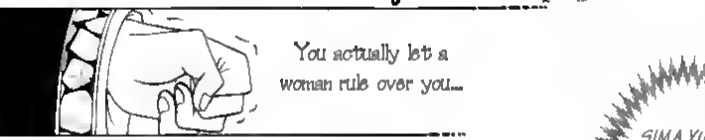

LORD JIA TAN'S "UNDER ONE MAN, ABOVE ALL OTHER MEN" ARROGANT EXPRESSION,
Heh-heh!
I REALLY DON'T UNDER-STAND.
HOW COULD LORD ZHAO SWALLOW THIS HUMILIATION?
WELL, THERE IS NO SOLUTION TO THAT. LORD JIA IS THE QUEEN'S BLOOD RELATED NEPHEW!
EH? HOW COME LORD SHI IS SITTING NEXT TO LORD JIA?

WITH LORD SHI'S CURRENT WEALTH,
IF HE WANTS TO SIT AT THAT SEAT, NATURALLY IT WOULD BE AS EFFORTLESS AS RAISING YOUR WINE CUP,
DID YOU FORGET? "MONEY CAN MAKE GHOSTS WORK THE MILL"!
THIS ISN'T A FORMAL BANQUET,
SEATING DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT PROPER!
BESIDES...
REALLY?

THE SHI FAMILY AND THE JIA FAMILY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GREAT FRIENDS.
LORD SHI IS LORD JIA'S CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE.
AHEM!
TO WELCOME YOU ALL...
I... AM HONORED...
TODAY,

neverFade 绝人缘



TODAY, WE ARE HERE AGAIN TO CELEBRATE THE CHRYSANTHEMUM FESTIVAL,
GENTLEMEN, PLEASE SHOW US GRANDEUR AND WONDERS TO SATISFY OUR HUNGRY EYES
DOES ANY GENTLEMAN WANT TO BRING OUT THEIR CRUDE WORK SO THAT THE MORE BEAUTIFUL MASTERPIECES CAN FOLLOW?
The Chrysanthemum Festival
Western Jin had a tradition called the Chrysanthemum Festival. Because chrysanthemum flowers represent prosperity and good fortune, bureaucrats from all over China offer the most beautiful and rare chrysanthemums to the Empress, hoping that they would gain her favor.
...
...
HUH?
YOUR HIGHNESS,
I WOULD LIKE TO

PLEASE ALLOW YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT TO SPEAK. I SUGGEST,
THAT WE...
SHOULD LET LORD SHI BEGIN THE SHOW.
WELL SAID,
IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE FOR LORD SHI.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, YOUR HIGHNESS?
DAMN!!

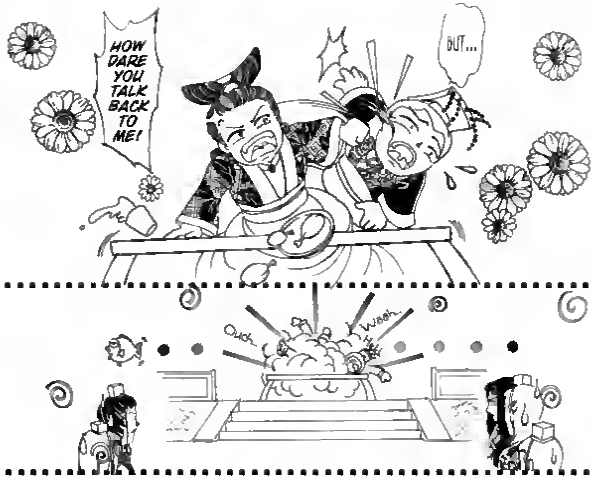
NeverFade
Murmur...
Murmur...
Today's Chrysanthemum Festival,
is the best opportunity to gain the Empress's favor
Murmur...
Murmur...
But when Lord Shi's treasure reveals its true face
No one can match up to its beauty!!

LORD SHI PRESENTS HIS GIFT.
Shi Chong...
With your immense wealth, why do you want to show off first?
But, this could be interesting.
HISSS!
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE UP YOUR SLEEVES?

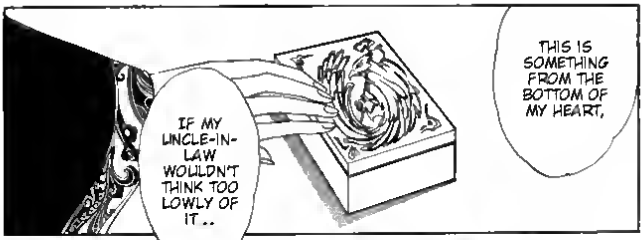
SHI CHONG, YOU...!

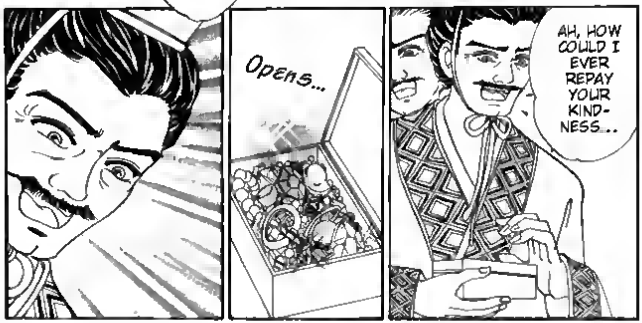
THIS
IS SO BEAUTIFUL..
YOUR HIGHNESS, THIS PIECE IS CALLED "LONGEVITY'S GOLD".
YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT SPECIFICALLY MADE THE PETALS FROM GOLD, THE LEAVES FROM JADE
AND THE BASKET FROM SILVER THREAD.

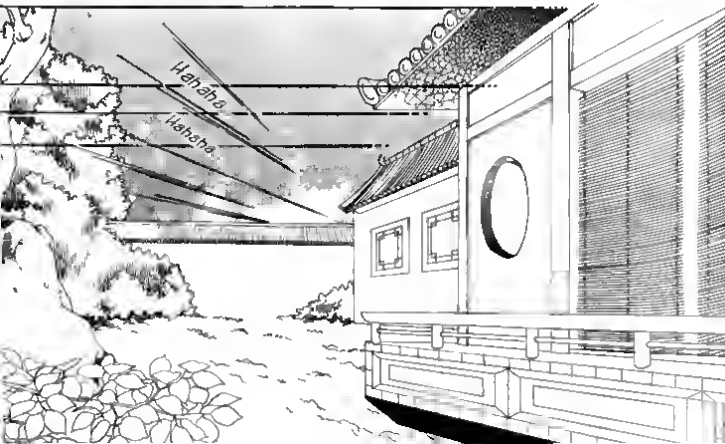
THIS WAY, THIS CHRYSANTHEMUM HAS QUALITIES SIMILAR TO YOUR HIGHNESS
FOREVER BLOOMING AND YOUNG!
WHAT A PITY! YOU CAN'T EAT SUCH BEAUTIFUL FLOWER..
HA?
LORD SHI REALLY KNOWS HOW TO FLATTER PEOPLE!
IDIOT!
EVEN IF YOU REMAIN SILENT, NO ONE WILL THINK THAT YOU ARE A MUTE!
PUNCH!
Ouch!


HOW DARE YOU TALK BACK TO ME!
BUT...
Ouch...
Waah...
Ah, forget it! He who does not tolerate humiliation will surely ruin the great plan!
Jia Nanfeng, enjoy the taste of your last supper!
I CAN'T STAND THIS ANY MORE!
DAMN!
...

LORD SHI,
YOU HAVE PREPARED YOUR GIFT WELL!
DO YOU SEE THAT THE EMPRESS REFUSES TO LET YOUR GIFT OUT OF HER HAND?
IT'S NOTHING REALLY! IT IS ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR HELP, MY UNCLE-IN-LAW.
YOUR DECEASED FATHER, SHI BAO, AND I WERE CLOSE ACQUAINTANCES
IF I DON'T HELP YOU, WHO WOULD I HELP?
Because after tonight...
HUH...?


THIS IS SOMETHING FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART,
IF MY UNCLE-IN-LAW WOULDN'T THINK TOO LOWLY OF IT..


Opens...
AH, HOW COULD I EVER REPAY YOUR KINDNESS...


Hahaha
Hahaha

MY NEPHEW-IN-LAW, I HEARD THAT THIS YEAR, YOU USED A TRUE FAIRY AS THE FAIRY OF BLESSINGS!
I ALSO HEARD THAT TODAY, THE PEASANTS IN LUOYANG SAW A SPECTACLE,
THERE WAS ALMOST AN ACCIDENT!
I REMEMBER THAT SHE SEEMS TO BE CALLED SOMETHING "ZHU.."

I THINK HER NAME IS "LUU ZHU..."
THAT MUST BE THE BEAUTY FROM THE SOUTHERN SEA WHOM LORD SHI EXCHANGED FOR TEN BUSHELS OF PEARLS
"..."
THAT'S HER
I HEARD THAT LORD WANG KAI PRAISED HER WITHOUT AN END
IT IS SAID THAT LUU-ZHU...
THAT'S RIGHT!
Glare!

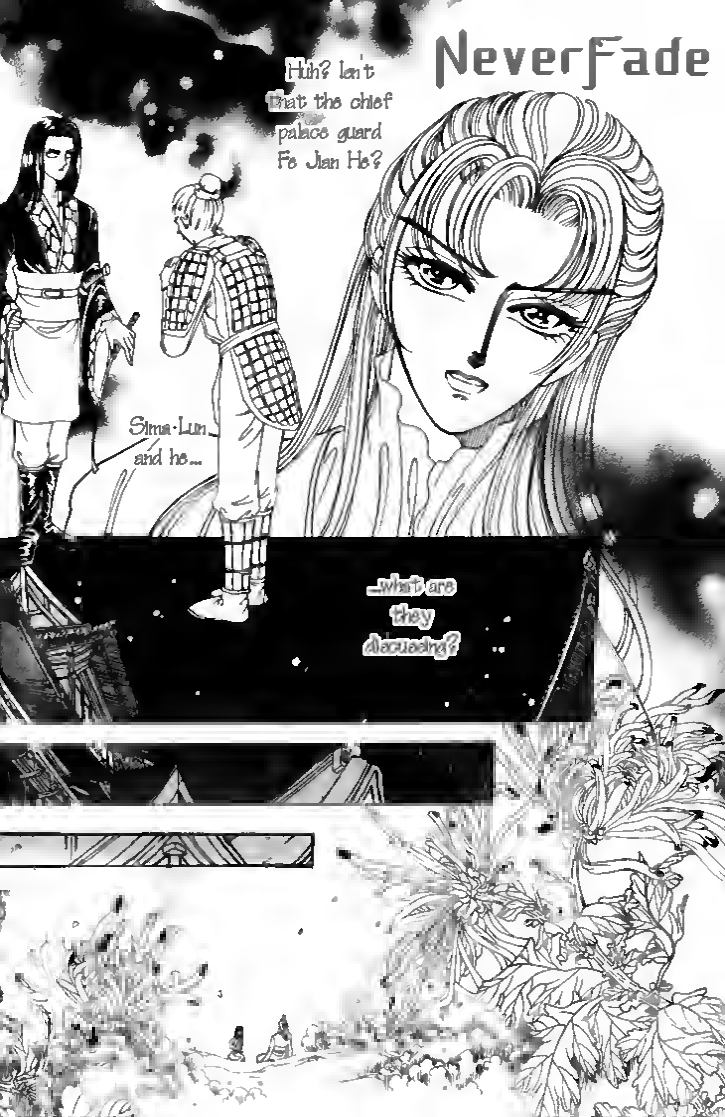
NeverFade

ACCORDING TO LORD WANG KAI,
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD,
IS NOT IN LORD ZHAO'S CITADEL,
NOR IS SHE IN THE EMPEROR'S PALACE.
INSTEAD, SHE EXISTS IN MY NEPHEW-IN-LAW'S GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN.

WHY DOES MY NEPHEW SMILE?
HE!
I WONDER WHEN WE WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO TRULY OPEN OUR EYES...
I ORIGINALLY THOUGHT THAT ONLY FAILURES LIKE ME WOULD HAVE A FANCY FOR A FISHING GIRL
THE RESPECTED UNCLE-IN-LAW AND OTHER GENTLEMEN,
WILL CERTAINLY FIND THIS KIND OF TOPIC BORING...

"RULING THE WORLD WHEN AWAKE, HAVING BEAUTIES WHEN ASLEEP"
IS EVERY MAN'S GREATEST DREAM!
Hahaha...
HAHA! NEPHEW SHOULD KNOW,
Chatter...
Chatter...
Chatter...
But, if I get the chance later,
I also want to see that Luuzhu girl.
can I still say those things?
Hmph! Insignificant clown like you.

I didn't think that Wang Kai would go around spreading rumors about Luzhu's beauty.
and now Jia-Tan has become interested in Luzhu.
Seems like I'll have to tell Murong to deliver a beauty to Jia-Tan, so she can distract his attention...


Huh? Isn't that the chief palace guard Fe Jian Hs?
Sima·Lun and he...
...what are they discussing?

Ji-Lan is so strange, since he returned from the front.
He seems to smile at the moon and the flowers, as if he'd become otherwise.
Ji-Lan!
I'm so sleepy.
But now he is ignoring me, and staring into space...
Ji-Lan.

DID SOMETHING IRRITATING HAPPEN AT TONIGHT'S FEAST?
WAS THE EMPEROR UNHAPPY WITH YOU?
OR DID YOU MAKE THE EMPRESS ANGRY?
DON'T WORRY,
THE EMPEROR AND THE EMPRESS TRUST ME VERY MUCH, BUT LUUZHU,
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT I WAS THINKING ABOUT THEM?

MAYBE I WAS WORRYING ABOUT...
IF THE MATTER IS ABOUT THE EMPEROR,
THEN IT IS EASY TO SOLVE.
WHO WOULD YOU BE WORRIED ABOUT?
A PERSON AS ARROGANT AS YOU, EXCEPT FOR THE EMPEROR
Lord Zhao had a secret meeting with his palace guards last night.
There must be something fishy going on.
BUT NOW...

Sigh! Luoyang is such a dangerous place. I don't know what might happen next.
It seems that I have to tell Jia-Lan to pay heed to Lord Zhao...
IF ONE DAY,
WE RETURN TO THE SOUTHERN SEA,
WILL YOU...
WHY DOES JILUN LOOK SO TROUBLED?
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
OH NO!
LITTLE LUU-ZHU,
I SHOULDN'T SAY THINGS SO CARELESSLY
EH, WHAT?

T/N: Hainan = Luuzhu's home region (island) located in the Southern Sea
JILIN DID YOU SAY WE ARE GOING BACK TO HAINAN?
RETURN TO THE SOUTHERN SEA?
I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO RETURN,
THIS IS GREAT!
WHEN WE RETURN TO HAINAN,
WE CAN FIRST FIND AN ABANDONED COTTAGE AND SETTLE DOWN,
I KNOW THAT THERE IS ONE NEAR THE BORDER OF EAST VILLAGE.

AND THEN,
I WILL GATHER PEARLS AND YOU WILL SELL FISH,
AND WHEN WE SAVE UP MONEY, WE COULD BUY A PIECE OF LAND...

Xia Jia?
BUT YOU FORGOT ABOUT WEI-ER AND XIA JIA AND EVERYONE!
I ALSO WANT TO LIVE THAT KIND OF LIFE.
...
IT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY FOR A FEW DAYS
I WILL RAISE WEI-ER,
BUT THE OTHER CONCUBINES SUCH AS XIA JIA ARE NOT OF MY CONCERN,
THEY WILL HAVE TO RELY ON LORD SHI!

YOU DESERVE IT! YOU WILL DIE OF EXHAUSTION, YOU PLAYBOY!
Hah...
WHO TOLD YOU TO LOVE SO EASILY,
YOU ALWAYS THINK OF SO MANY WOMEN...
SEEMS LIKE I HAVE TO WORK TO MY LAST BREATH CATCHING AND SELLING FISH TO FEED SO MANY PEOPLE,
SWISH
RELY ON ME?
SHARK
Wehe...
OR I CAN JUST CATCH A BIG WHALE...
Never Fade

AH?
GRAB!

Transcendence

LULI-ZHU,
IN THIS ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD, MY HEART,
HAS ALWAYS BEEN ENGRAVED BY ONE PERSON'S SHADOW...

I...
YOU ARE SAYING NON-SENSE AGAIN!
JI... JI-LUN...

Transcendence
LLLL-ZHU,
I LOVE YOU!
Jlu...
EVER SINCE WE FIRST MET ON THAT MOONLIT NIGHT AT THE SOUTHERN S...
YOUR SHADOW HAS OCCUPIED ALL OF MY MIND

I WANT TO EMBRACE YOU AND NOT LET YOU GO...
AND ON YOUR DELICATE SKIN,
LEAVE BEHIND MY MARK THAT YOU BELONG TO ME

This...
This...
JILLIN...
PLEASE
PLEASE WAIT...
I I
...

OUCH!
OUCH!
DAMN!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

What do I do now?
Is Jilin angry because I rejected him?
But, I...
I'M SORRY...

I LOVE YOU, LUUZHU.
BUT...
I WILL RESPECT YOUR CHOICE,
I WILL NOT FORCE YOU INTO ANYTHING.
PLEASE LET ME HAVE YOU BRIEFLY JUST FOR TONIGHT!
Jiun...
I SWEAR I WILL NOT LOSE CONTROL AGAIN...

All of his passion,
turned into strings of soft kisses,
His kisses are so very gentle,
they are no longer violent.
These purposely controlled movements,
makes me barely able to feel his lips...

The fear and anxiety inside my heart...
has gradually subsided...

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE...

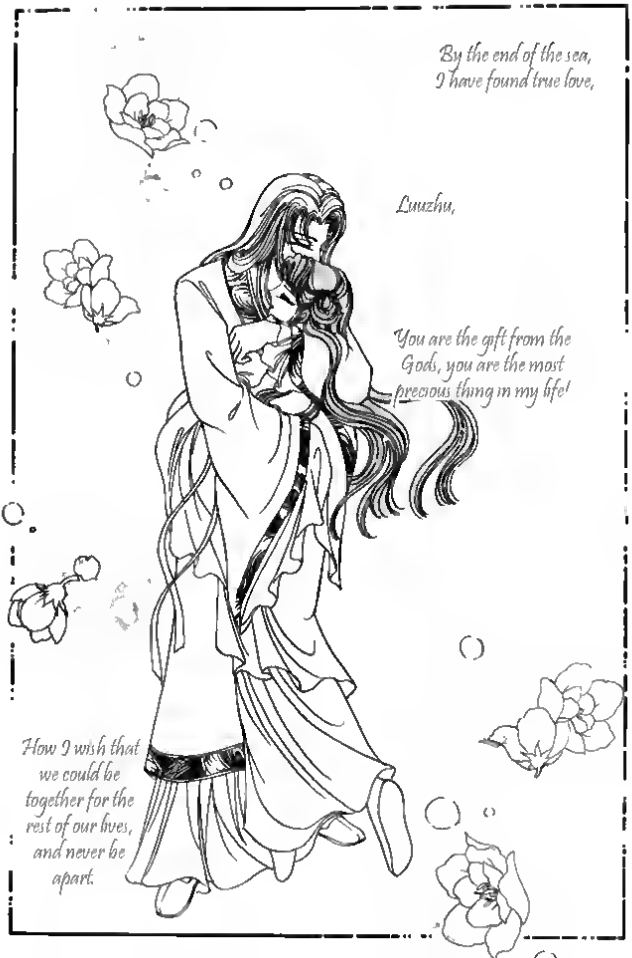
...
OH NO!
HOW IN-SOLENT I AM?!

JILLIN, I.
I...
DON'T WORRY
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANY-THING,
I UNDER-STAND!

Da-dh...
Da-dh...
This sound...
Gallop-
Gallop-
How strange, why are there so many soldiers and horses traveling toward the direction of the capital at this late hour?
Maybe it's...
EH? WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
IT'S NOTHING, PROBABLY DEERS!

WHOOSH
WHOOSH
LET US RETURN'
THE NIGHT HAS BECOME CHILLY,
IT WILL BE WINDY,
WHOOSH...
WHOOSH
WHOOSH...
I seem to see,
Through this chilly autumn wind,
a fleeting moment of uneasiness on Jiun's face...
SWISH...
SWISH...
SWISH...

This wind...
Where will it blow our destiny to?


By the end of the sea,
I have found true love,
Luuzhu,
You are the gift from the Gods, you are the most precious thing in my life!
How I wish that we could be together for the rest of our lives, and never be apart.

Credits

The Pearl Grudge

Translator Cathona
Cleaner Evory
Typesetter Evory
Proofreader Minimarshamallo
Quality Checker Icewing
Raw Provider Greenleaf

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ABHAR

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GALLOP...
GALLOP...
GALLOP...
GALLOP...
GALLOP...
GALLOP...
GALLOP...
BY ORDER OF THE EMPEROR!
OPEN THE CITY GATE!
STAND ASIDE!

Hue...
Hue...

SIMA LUN, YOU SURE HAVE GUTS, DARING TO COME BACK INTO THE PALACE AT MIDNIGHT WITHOUT PERMISSION!
GUARDS
Ugh!

GATHER ALL THE GENERALS. GIVE THEM THE FOLLOWING ORDERS.
Waaaa...
THE GREAT JIN DYNASTY DOES NOT HAVE A SEDUCTRESS LIKE THE EMPRESS!
THE CITY IS TO BE CLOSED.
WITHOUT MY EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION,
NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO ENTER OR LEAVE LUOYANG CITY!
Under Heaven's eyes, the Emperor says...
Empress Nanfeng, who is a seductress and a tyrant, who permits corrupted officials such as Xuyu, to harm society and the dynasty as a whole...
Wa...
Wa...

I, the Emperor, name Lord Zhao (Sima Lun) to restore order to this land! persecute the Empress, reorder the palace and set up justice.
GALLOP
GALLOP
GALLOP
LORD SHI CHONG,
BAD NEWS!
LORD ZHAO HAS REBELLED?!

By the Emperor's command
Starting from today, all of the Empress's titles are void, and she is to be imprisoned in Inyong city!
The adviser Zhang Zheng and Qi Yuan have high positions, but were unable to control the Empress, and they allowed her to use power foolishly, there will be a trial held at the new palace!

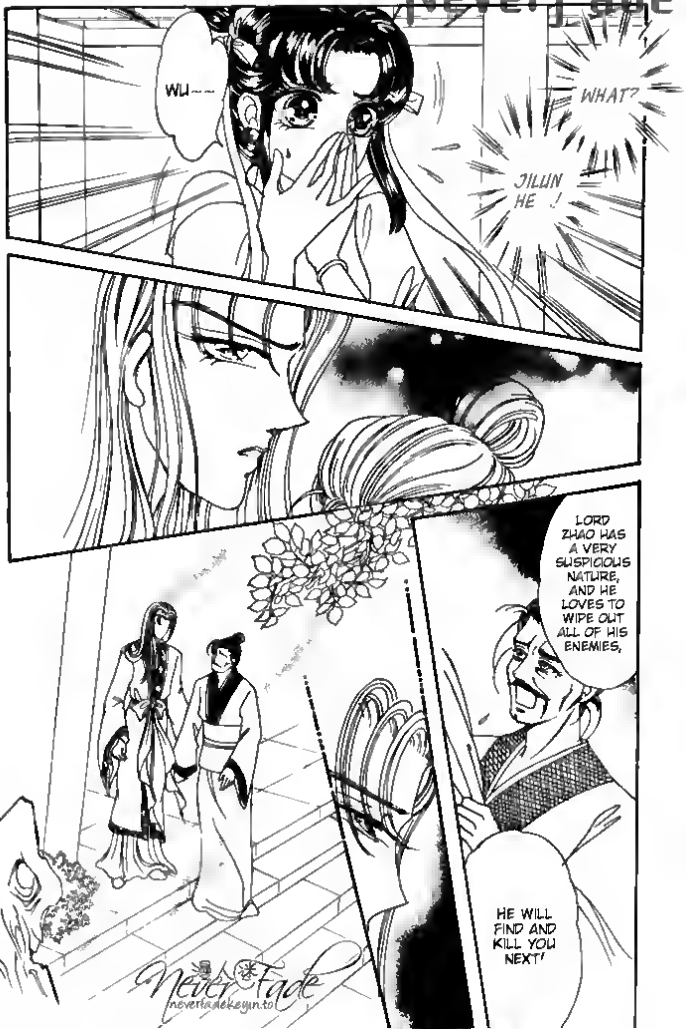
Lord Zhao (Sima Lun) is to be honored for helping the kingdom, therefore I command neighboring provinces, inside and outside cities, and all the military generals and the other officials to obey Lord Zhao,
He is now the First Duke of Jin
If anyone defies his orders,
their family, relatives, and clan will be executed

HOW COME BOTH MY POWERFUL AUNT AND MY ADVISER POSITION ARE GONE?
WHY HAVE THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY?
THIS TIME I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO DIE!
That's
REMEMBER HOW MY JIA CLAN COULD CALL THE WIND AND THE RAIN" IN THE IMPERIAL HOUSE,
"call the wind and the rain" - Chinese expression meaning "able to do anything"
HOW GLORIOUS WE ONCE WERE!
Lord Jia Tan?
BUT BECAUSE OF THIS MUTINY, WE HAVE BECOME POOR DIRTY STREET RATS
IT'S OVER!
IT'S OVER!

THE DAY WHEN SIMA LUN WAS AT THE CHRYSANTHEMUM FESTIVAL, HE HELD A CLANDESTINE MEETING WITH THE PALACE GUARDS,
I TOLD YOU TO BE VIGILANT, AND BE MORE WARY OF HIM!
I
I DIDN'T THINK THAT SIMA LUN WOULD BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO REBEL
DIDN'T I TELL YOU BEFORE?
...
FORGET IT, THINGS HAVE DEVELOPED SO,
IT'S FUTILE TO SAY MORE,
THE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO LIVE THIS WRETCHED LIFE, AND WALK ONWARDS AS MUCH AS YOU CAN

MY NEPHEW!
YOU HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING TO SAVE ME!
YOU... DON'T YOU FORGET, YOU ARE ALSO A PERSON WHO IS RELATED TO THE JIA CLAN.
RA!
WE ARE ON THE SAME BOAT, IF I HAPPEN TO DIE,
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE YOUR FATE EITHER!

NeverFade


WU~~
WHAT?
JILUN HE !
LORD ZHAO HAS A VERY SUSPICIOUS NATURE, AND HE LOVES TO WIPE OUT ALL OF HIS ENEMIES.
HE WILL FIND AND KILL YOU NEXT!
NeverFade
neverfade.keyin.tw

YES SIR!
GUARDS!
ACCOMPANY LORD JIA TO HIS DWELLING!
Clap!
Clap!
DON'T WORRY, UNCLE-IN-LAW,
I KNOW EVERYTHING,
OF COURSE I WILL TRY MY BEST TO HELP YOU
LUUZHU,
JIA TAN LEFT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE ANY MORE.
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW!

...
JILLIN,
I'M SORRY,
I DIDN'T COME TO DISTURB YOU ON PURPOSE
I JUST THOUGHT THAT IT'S SO LATE IN THE NIGHT, YOU MIGHT BE

THANK YOU,
I FEEL HUNGRY

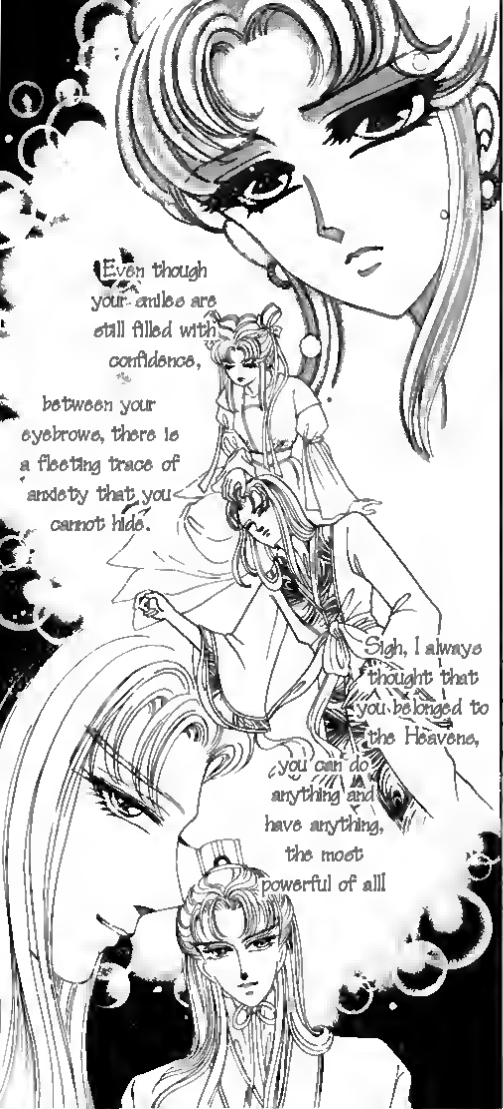
JILIN, JUST NOW JIA TAN SAID THAT LORD ZHAO WILL GO AGAINST YOU...
IS IT TRUE?
AH!
SWORD FISH
PUNCTATUS
I CAN BREATHE A LITTLE MORE FREELY NOW THAT JIA TAN HAS FINALLY LEFT.
STEPHANOLEPIS
THAT'S RIGHT, I WAS ALWAYS ON BAD TERMS WITH LORD ZHAO,
GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY, SIMA LUN THE EVIL WOLF WILL SHOW HIS SHARP CLAWS WITHOUT HESITATION,
AND TEAR ME INTO PIECES!
Never Fade

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
BUT, THIS WILL REQUIRE MUCH TIME AND MAN-POWER.
EVEN THOUGH SIMA LUN CURRENTLY IS...
THE "FIRST DUKE UNDER THE EMPEROR'S COMMAND",
NOT ALL OF THE SIMA CLAN WITH MILITARY POWER ARE LOYAL HIM
THAT...

FOR EXAMPLE THE KING OF NUNAN, SIMA LIANG, THE KING OF ZHUN, SIMA XU AND MANY OTHERS...
THEY ARE VERY UPSET OVER HIS MUTINY.

SO EVEN THOUGH LORD ZHAO HAS ALWAYS BEEN ON BAD TERMS WITH ME,
THOSE TREACHEROUS RELATIVES ARE HIS REAL PROBLEM
TO HIM,

I HAVE ALREADY ORDERED MURONG TO THE ZHAO CITADEL, INVITING SIMA LUN TO THE GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN FOR A FEAST.
OF COURSE HE WON'T TRUST ME SO EASILY,
THAT'S WHY I'LL HAVE TO RELINQUISH PRECIOUS THINGS IN ORDER TO GAIN HIS TRUST.
IF I GO ALONG WITH HIM,
AND INTENT-IONALLY BECOME HIS SUP-PORTER,
LET HIM KNOW THAT I DON'T WANT TO BE HIS ENEMY, MAYBE HE WILL LET ME SLIDE BY
JILUN?
Eh, // sleeping // already?


Even though your smiles are still filled with confidence,
between your eyebrows, there is a fleeting trace of anxiety that you cannot hide.
Sigh, I always thought that you belonged to the Heavens,
you can do anything and have anything, the most powerful of all!

Jiin,
I am really worried about you!

SSSSHHHH...
I didn't think that such intense politics would be like this candle flame,
Shhh...
It seems so very glamorous...
But it only takes one wheeze, to make this illusion disappear in the blink of an eye.

Luoyang's situation changes so quickly and unexpectedly.
Sigh...
How much longer can the peaceful time between the two of us run?

Credits

The Pearl Grudge

Translator Xiaowu
Cleaner Evory
Typesetter Evory
Proofreader Ryu
Quality Checker Catriona
Raw Provider Greenleaf

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Dead or Alive

Translators/Editors/Quality Checkers

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Dead: Crumbs

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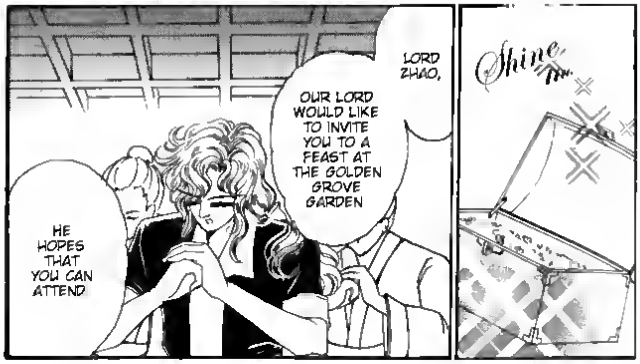
Ne
Zhao
Mansion


LORD ZHAO,
OUR LORD WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO A FEAST AT THE GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN
HE HOPES THAT YOU CAN ATTEND
Shine
To Lord Si Ma Lun

Hmm...
HEHE...
IT'S RARE FOR SHI CHONG TO INVITE ME TO HIS GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN!
Oh, Shi Chong! You've finally realized that you must obey me,
but isn't it a little too late?
remember your confident eyes at the Chrysanthemum Festival...

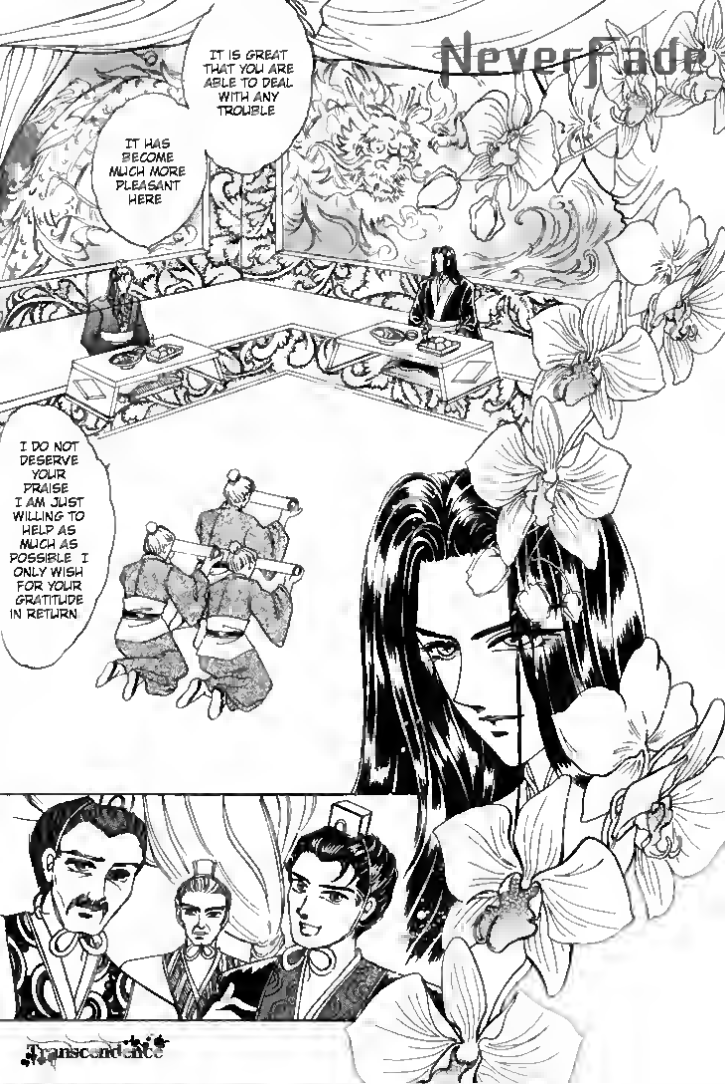
SHI CHONG IS THE HEAD OF THE JIA CLAN - HE HATES YOU.
MY LORD, YOU SHOULDN'T GO!
INSTEAD OF GOING TO THE FEAST, I SUGGEST THAT YOU BEHEAD SHI CHONG AND HIS FAMILY.
IT'LL SERVE AS A WARNING TO THE JIA CLAN.

LORD WANG, I DISAGREE
MY LORD,
IF YOU KILL SHI CHONG, THE OFFICIALS WOULD BE SUSPICIOUS
AND THE CITIZENS OF LUOYANG WOULD BE SCARED
SHI CHONG IS A NOBLE, SO HE SHOULDN'T BE KILLED
ALSO, ALL OF THE OFFICIALS ARE FRIENDLY WITH THE JIA CLAN

YOU CAN'T JUST KILL HIM AND HOPE THAT NO ONE WILL NOTICE!
MY LORD, PLEASE CONSIDER THIS!
THAT WOULD GIVE LORDS HUAI NAN AND RU NAN AN EXCUSE TO WAGE WAR WITH US
...
Ah...
I can only pray for the best,
but I hope that he'll make the right choice.
Otherwise...

NeverFade

YOU'VE BOTH STATED YOUR REASONS
SHOULD I KILL SHI CHONG OR NOT—
Shi Chong, show me what you can do.
Let me see what you'll do to save your life!


IT IS GREAT THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO DEAL WITH ANY TROUBLE
IT HAS BECOME MUCH MORE PLEASANT HERE
I DO NOT DESERVE YOUR PRAISE I AM JUST WILLING TO HELP AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE I ONLY WISH FOR YOUR GRATITUDE IN RETURN

IN THE YANG AND JING PROVINCES, I HAVE STATIONED MILLIONS OF SOLDIERS
I HAVE ALSO PREPARED THE CITIES OF YE, CHANG'AN, AND XU CHANG WITH WEAPONS AND MAPS...
AS WELL AS A MILLION UNITS OF GOLD AND A THOUSAND KILOGRAMS OF FOOD.

NeverFade

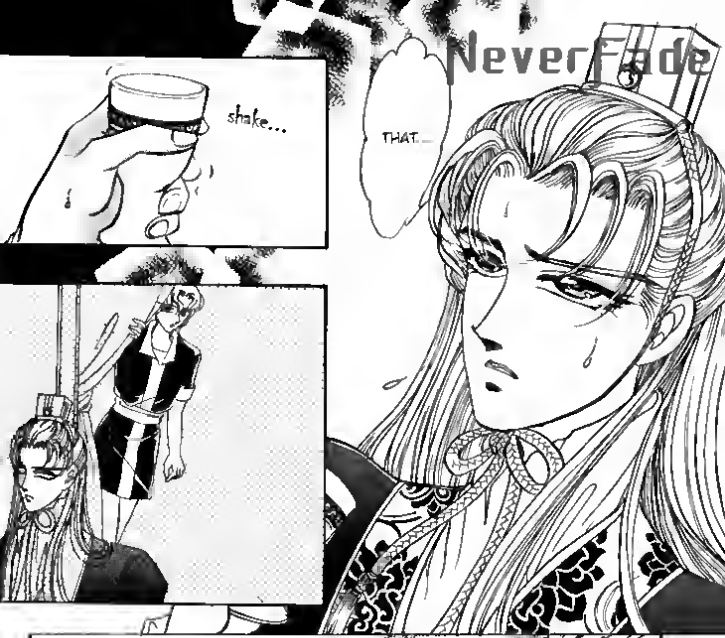
Strange...
Sir Ma Lun should be very happy to receive my gifts.
Did I make a mistake?
LORD SHI'S GIFTS...
THEY'RE TRULY PRAISE-WORTHY!
AMAZING!
WOW!
I really can't believe it.
I can't believe it.
Shi Chong is too rich!
Luoyang
Lun
Xu Chang
Yuan
Xiang Yang
Jing Zhou
Yangtze River
Xun Yang
Ba Ling
MY LORD,
YANG PROVINCE AND JING PROVINCE ARE LORD HUAI NAN AND LORD RU NAN'S LANDS
YOU CAN USE THE SOLDIERS TO CONTROL THOSE AGGRESSIVE LORDS!

IT'S WORTH IT NO MATTER HOW MUCH I'LL NEED TO SACRIFICE!
Even if I have to give up all the power I've gained so far...
if I can gain the trust of Lord Zhao...

Hahaha!
FANTASTIC!
THOSE SOLDIERS WILL BE USEFUL
LORD SHI, YOUR PRESENTS ARE WONDERFUL!
THIS IS JUST A SMALL TOKEN I HOPED YOU WOULD NOT MIND
Wow.
WELL, HE IS LORD SHI!
LORD SHI IS AMAZING! HE'S ACTUALLY BEING FRIENDLY WITH LORD ZHAO!
Whoa.
HE SURE KNOWS WHAT TO SAY!
HE COULD MAKE ANYTHING POSSIBLE
NOW LORD SHI CAN RELAX A LITTLE

LORD SHI,
SINCE YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT SO WELL,
I HAVE A REQUEST

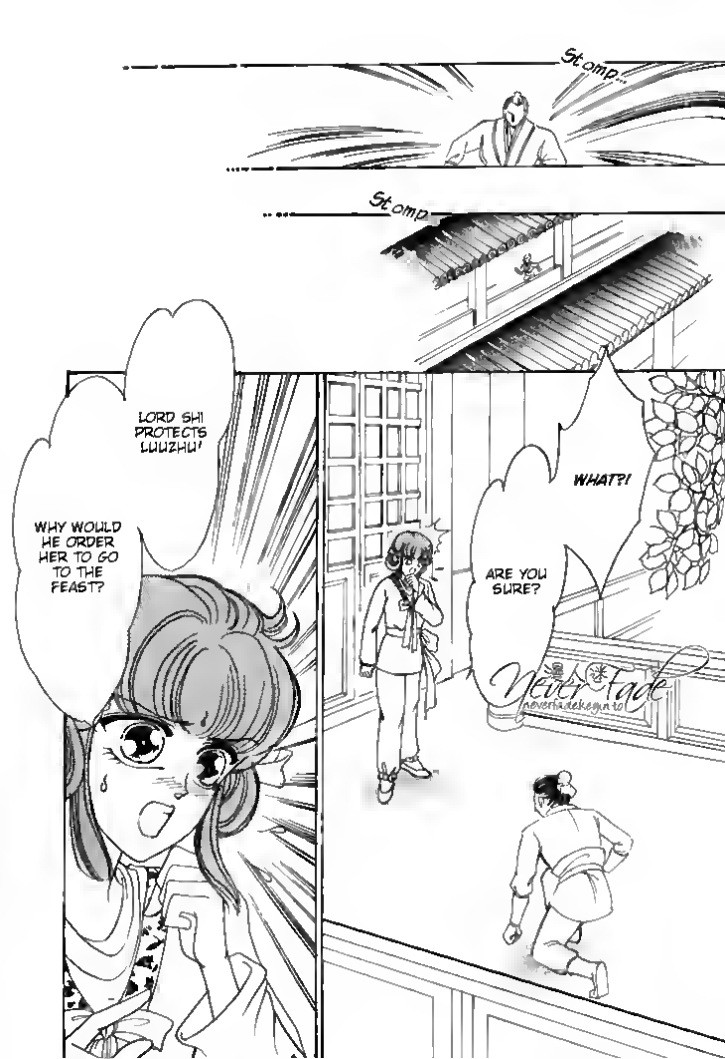
WHY DON'T YOU ASK HER TO SING AND DANCE FOR US?
IF YOU TRULY WISH TO SERVE ME,
THIS RUMOR HAS BEEN FLOATING AROUND THE PALACE FOR A WHILE. I AM REALLY CURIOUS.
Do you know what I really want?
I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU HAVE FOUND A GIRL BY THE SOUTHERN SEA,
AND THAT SHE IS NOT ONLY SKILLED AT ARTS, BUT ALSO CELESTIAL IN HER BEAUTY
IF THE TASK IS WITHIN MY ABILITY TO DO,
I WILL DO IT
YOU CAN ASK FOR ANYTHING, MY LORD.
Hmph...
Really...


shake...
THAT...

I can't believe that Lord Zhao would make that kind of request.
But Lord Shi must accept it, or the feast will be pointless.
NO WAY!

IF I MAKE A MISTAKE, THEN HE'LL BEHEAD MY WHOLE FAMILY!
HOWEVER, MY CONCUBINE, LUUZHU, HAS BEEN RATHER FRAIL IN HEALTH LATELY
SHE MIGHT NOT BE IN HER BEST SHAPE, SO
IT'S MY PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU HERE IN THE GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN OF COURSE. I WOULD LIKE TO SATISFY YOU
JUST INVITE HER TO THE FEAST
IF THAT IS THE CASE,
LET THE OTHER LORDS SEE HER
THEN I WILL NOT FORCE HER
THEN, WE CAN DECIDE IF SHE IS AS BEAUTIFUL AS THE RUMORS SAY SHE IS. SHE COULD BE A LITTLE AFTER-DINNER ENTERTAINMENT
SHE DOES NOT NEED TO DANCE OR SING

I've always wanted to see how beautiful she is!
We're so lucky!
That's great! We can finally see this touzhu.
...
Wow!
Hey!
LORD SHI,
WOULDN'T THAT KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE...?


Stomp...
Stomp...
LORD SHI PROTECTS LUUZHU!
WHY WOULD HE ORDER HER TO GO TO THE FEAST?
WHAT?!
ARE YOU SURE?
Never Fade
neverfadekeqm.to

I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS,
BUT THIS SEEMS TO BE AN ORDER FROM LORD ZHAO
EVEN LORD SHI CAN'T REFUSE
SO,
PLEASE PREPARE LADY LUUZHU FOR THE FEAST
...
I UNDER-STAND
ONCE SHE'S READY, I'LL SEND HER OUTSIDE
CREAK...
HUH, WHAT IS IT?
It is late already,
the feast should end soon!

JILIN WANTS ME TO JOIN LORD ZHAO'S FEAST?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

That's weird...
This isn't something he would normally do.
In the Golden Grove Garden, there's always music playing,
and feasts every night, but...
JILLIN NEVER LETS ME ATTEND THOSE POINTLESS EVENTS
Last time, when I showed my face to save Wei-er,
It made him upset for a while.
At that time, he warned me...

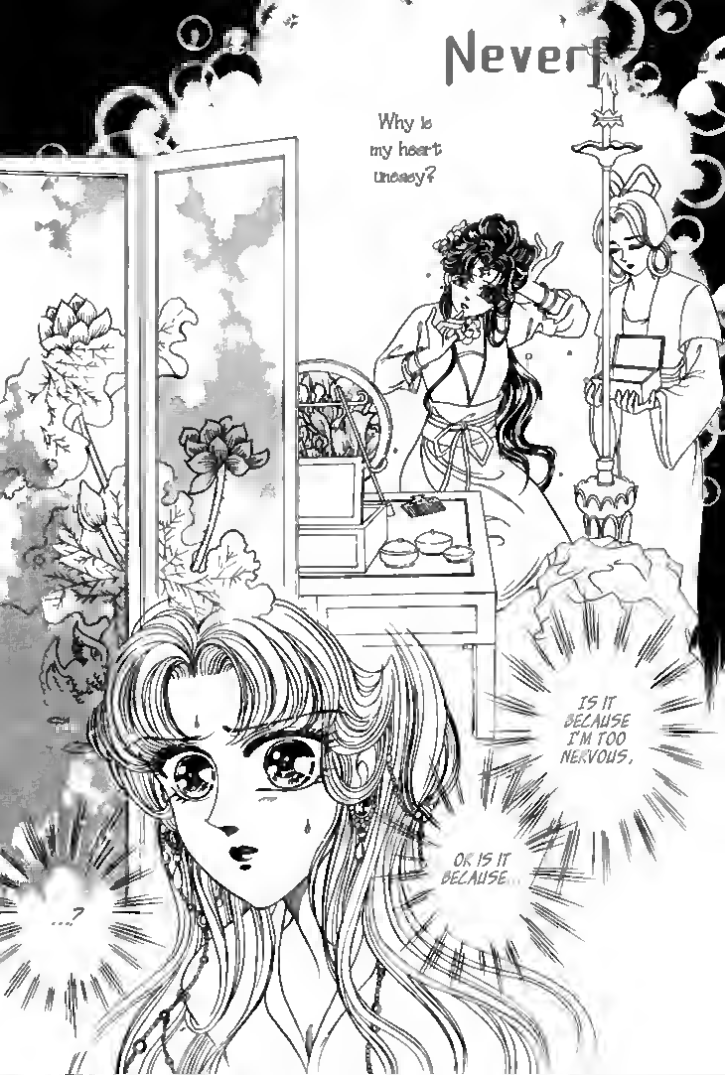
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE LORD ZHAO IS HERE AS A SPECIAL GUEST.
LILIZHU,
S-SO,
HE WANTS YOU
"From now on if I hold any feasts in the Golden Grove Garden you must stay here. Don't you dare leave your room!"
Why would he say that?
BUT,
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GREET THE LORD!
IF I MESS UP, I'LL EMBARRASS JILIN
Never Fade
never a dekeyin tol

LAST TIME, AT LORD WONG'S FEAST,
DIDN'T YOU DO A GREAT JOB?
WELL, IT'S NOT THAT DIFFICULT
YOU JUST NEED TO DANCE AND DRINK!
BUT
IT'LL BE FINE!
LADY LUUZHU, DON'T BE SO NERVOUS!
YOU ONLY NEED TO SHOW YOUR FACE TO SATISFY LORD ZHAO
IF YOU DON'T GO, LORD SHI WOULD BE HUMILIATED EVEN MORE!
?

EXACTLY! EVEN IF LADY LUUZHU DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND THE FEAST,
BUT THE GUESTS WOULD LAUGH AT LORD SHI, WHO COULDN'T EVEN SUMMON HIS CONCUBINE.
LORD SHI WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
THAT'S
SOMETHING THAT I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT...

I HAVE TO DO MY BEST.
I WON'T ALLOW JILIN TO BE RIDICULED BECAUSE OF ME!
CLENCH!

...
STRANGE


Never
Why is my heart uneasy?
IS IT BECAUSE I'M TOO NERVOUS,
OR IS IT BECAUSE...
...?

Who is this Lord Zhao?
Even Jiun has to respect him!
Such an intimidating ex... man...
Can I... Can I do this?

...
Remember what happened tonight.
GIVE ME THE COURAGE TO PERSEVERE!
JILUN, PLEASE HELP ME!

...
WEI-ER,
PLEASE HELP ME
WEI-ER,
WHAT'S WRONG?
I've been to many feasts in the Golden Grove Garden.
After drinking, the guests usually ask Lord Shi for the concubines to entertain them. Lord Shi has never rejected those requests.
NO, IT'S NOTHING.
I'LL HELP YOU.

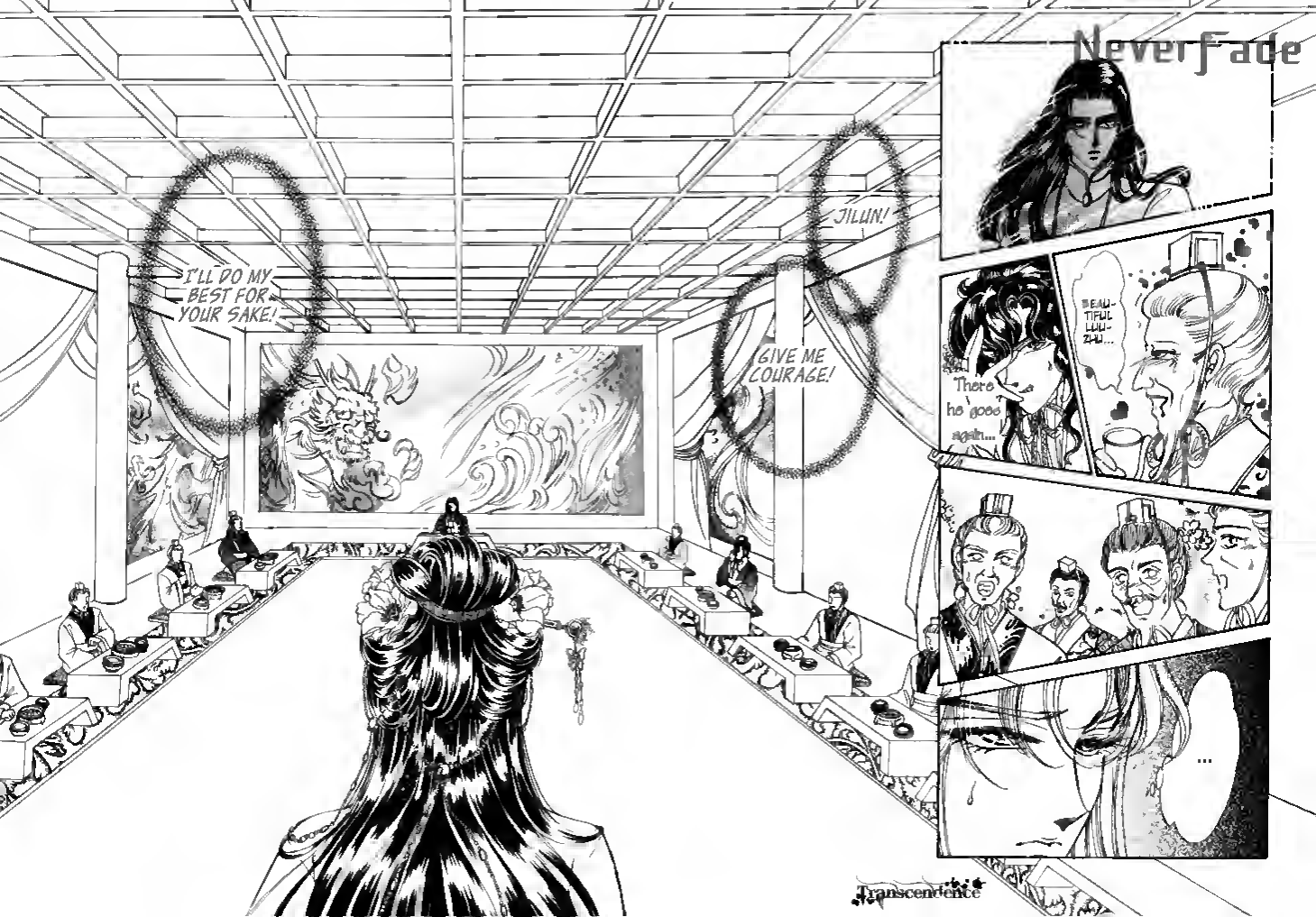
EVEN LUUZHU, WHOM LORD SHI LOVES THE MOST..
STILL HAS TO ATTEND THE FEAST
LADY LUUZHU, THE LORD IS CALLING FOR YOU AGAIN
PLEASE COME OUT!
Knock Knock
THAT'S WHY MANY CONCUBINES HAVE BEEN SENT AWAY
Transcendence

...
tuuzhu!
HURRY!
RUSH..
THERE'S NO TIME LEFT!
YES, WEI-ER?
WHAT'S WRONG?

*T/N: buyao = a hair accessory worn by women in Ancient China.

The buyno...
Louzhu's buyno!
I hope that it can remind Lord Shi...

Hall
Mansion
Although I know that I have to do my best for Jilin, there's still a feeling of apprehension in my heart...
I'm finally here!
LADY LUUZHU HAS ARRIVED!
BANG
LADY LUUZHU HAS COME.
PLEASE TELL THE GUARDS.
YES, WAIT HERE.
... OF HIS LOVE FOR LUUZHU!


I'LL DO MY BEST FOR YOUR SAKE!
JILUN!
GIVE ME COURAGE!
There he goes again...
BEAUTIFUL LADY...
...

Credits

The Pearl Grudge

Translator Xiaowu
Cleaner Evory
Typesetter Evory
Proofreader Ryu
Quality Checker Catriona
Raw Provider Greenleaf

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- Editors
- Korean & Chinese translators
- Quality checkers

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I HUMBLY GREET YOU LORD ZHAO

IF THIS GORGEOUS WOMAN SPENT THE NIGHT WITH ME,
I'D DIE HAPPY!
WOW!
SHE REALLY IS A BEAUTY!
LIKE A GODDESS FROM HEAVEN...
NO WONDER LORD SHI TRADED HIS PEARLS FOR HER.
WELL, THE RUMORS ABOUT LADY LUUZHU WEREN'T LIES!

HAH! THOSE PEARLS DIDN'T COST LORD SHI ANYTHING
JUST LOOK AT THE JEWELRY SHE'S WEARING
ESPECIALLY THAT LUSTROUS BLACK PEARL IT HAS A BRILLIANT TEXTURE
AND THE JADE ENCIRCLING IT ONLY ENHANCES ITS SHEEN AND QUALITY!
EACH PIECE IS PROBABLY WORTH A FORTUNE!
YOU MAY RISE
YES, MY LORD
!
THAT KIND OF BEAUTY WEARING SUCH RARE TREASURES NO WONDER OTHER CONCUBINES CAN'T COMPETE AGAINST HER!

Wh-what's with that stare?!
Is Lord Zhao... a pervert?
He's different from the other vulgar nobles, though.
His eyes are as sharp and cold as the eyes of a hawk...
...
Ugh...
was it a mistake to ask Luzhu to come here?
It's giving me goose bumps...
WHO BIDES ITS TIME BEFORE KILLING ITS PREY!

HAHAHA!
NO WONDER YOU'RE LORD SHI'S FAVORITE CONCUBINE
ONLY AFTER MEETING YOU, I REALIZE HOW LUCKY HE IS.
TO FIND A TREASURE LIKE YOU...
It's as if...
I have chills all over my body!
something bad is going to happen

COMPARED TO THE SOLDIERS, HORSES, AND FOOD YOU OFFERED ME,
LORD SHI,
I HAVE NOW FOUND SOMETHING THAT I'M MORE...
NO, VERY INTERESTED IN...

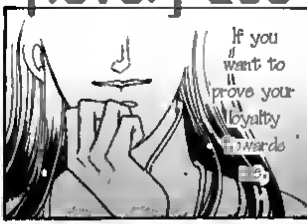
*T/N Louzhu's name means pearl

Oh, Shi Chong!
Back then, when you hid behind the queen of Jin's power and wealth,
SI MA LUN,
YOU...
You were always disobeying me!
You never needed to make a painful sacrifice.

If you refuse my request because of your "love" and embarrass me before my subjects,

I'd be more than happy...

behead both of you!



Hehehe...

No matter what you decide to do,
your beautiful Pearl,
will be mine!
I'll take good care of her...

Whisper
THIS IS UNUSUAL WHY IS LORD SHI HESITATING?
YEAH, WHAT'S GOING ON?
Rustle
LUUZHU...
BAM!

JILUN...
WHAT'S WRONG?
LORD SHI, IF YOU DON'T SPEAK NOW, I'LL TAKE YOUR ANSWER AS A YES.
BUT IF YOU DECLINE...
?

Never Fade
IF THIS IS WHAT MY LORD WANTS, I'LL GIVE HER TO YOU.

JI-JILUN IS GIVING ME TO LORD ZHAO?!

JILUN WOULDN'T DO THAT TO ME!
LUUZHU.
No!
That's impossible!
I must be dreaming...

WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE?
COME HERE!

YES, UNDER-STOOD
New South Tribute Records

Credits

The Pearl Grudge

Translator Xiaowu
Cleaner Evory
Typesetter Evory
Proofreader Ryu
Quality Checker Catriona
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ABHAR

GRAB!

?
!
I PRESENT THIS PEARL FROM THE SOUTHERN SEA TO YOU
I HOPE THAT IT PLEASES YOU

IN THIS WORLD, ONLY A BLIND MAN WOULD CALL A CONCUBINE A 'PEARL'.
JUST LOOK AT THE COLOR OF THIS NIGHT PEARL
THIS IS A RARE TREASURE
AND CALL A RARE PEARL A 'FISH EYE'
WHEREAS LUUZHU IS ONLY A CONCUBINE!
*T/N: Trying to pass off fish eyes as pearls = To deceive other people into believing that something worthless (fish eyes) is actually of much greater value (pearls).
Hahaha!
LORD WANG, YOU'VE GOT THAT WHOLE PHRASE WRONG!
NON-SENSE!
EVERY-BODY KNOWS THAT THE PEARL LORD ZHAO WANTS IS YOUR CON-CUBINE!
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO PASS OFF 'FISH EYES' AS 'PEARLS'!
SHI CHONG!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DIDN'T LORD ZHAO SAY THAT HE WANTED MY PEARL?
I'M GIVING HIM THE PEARL

NeverFade

HOW-EVER,
SINCE LORD ZHAO IS SO WELL RES-PECTED,
I'M SURE THAT HE CAN TELL WHICH IS MORE VALUABLE
MAY LORD ZHAO ACCEPT THIS PEARL!
SHI CHONG!
Y-YOU...!
Ha...
BUT...
LORD SHI HAS A POINT
Chatter
WHAT? DIDN'T LORD ZHAO ASK FOR THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN?
?
...

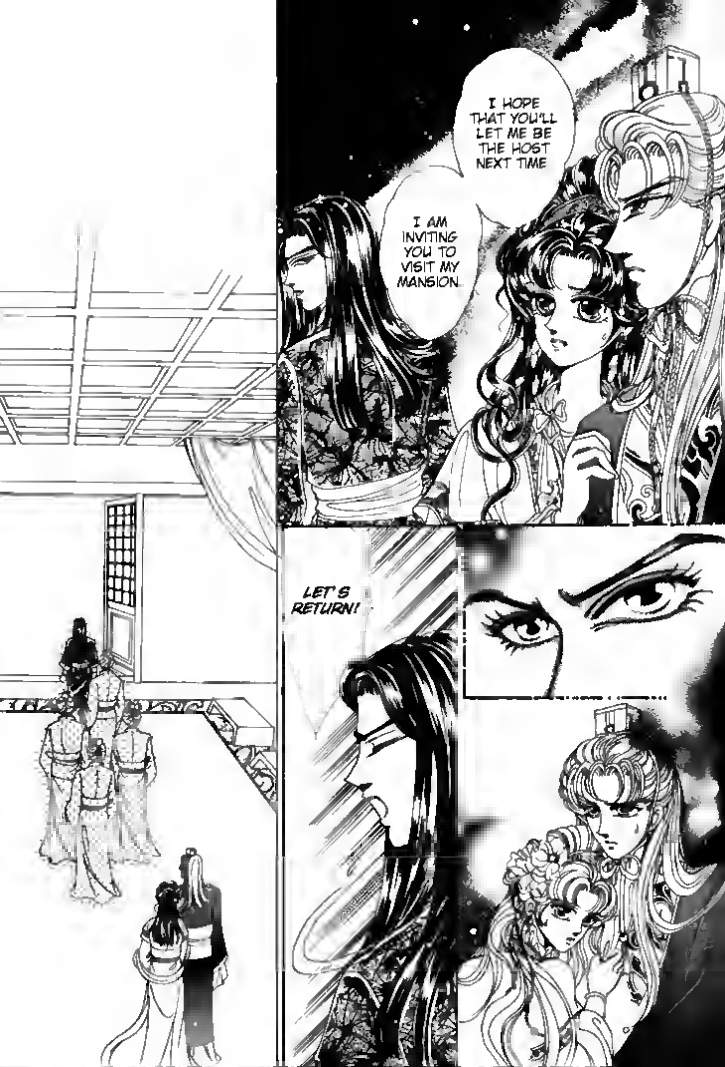
WANG KAI,
GET OUT!
SHI CHONG IS CORRECT
I DID SAY I WANTED HIS
...

PEARL...
WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?!
Si Ma Lun,
I'm only giving you what you said you wanted.
Damnit!
How dare you, Shi Chong!
You've put me in a compromising situation.
VERY WELL.

NO ONE ELSE WOULD DARE TO HUMILIATE ME LIKE THIS!
Clink!
Clink!

NeverFade

If I, Si Ma Lun, can't get revenge, then I'm not worthy of my own name!
LORD SHI,
I'VE ACCEPTED YOUR GIFT
Chatter!
Chatter!
Brush!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY TONIGHT
SINCE I'M NOT FEELING WELL,
I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE
ALSO,


I HOPE THAT YOU'LL LET ME BE THE HOST NEXT TIME
I AM INVITING YOU TO VISIT MY MANSION.
LET'S RETURN!

Liuzhu!
Wah
Tap tap tap...

LUUZHU,
I...
I...
WEI-ER, DON'T CRY.
I'M FINE. I'M STILL HERE.
Wah...
Wah!
YEAH,
I'M SO RELIEVED!
I WAS WORRIED THAT THE LORD WAS ACTUALLY GIVING YOU AWAY
IT'S GOOD THAT IT WAS JUST AN ACT!
?

WAS IT TRULY JUST AN ACT?
...
YES.
That horrible, hateful atmosphere...
How! was that an act?
And all the blood...
I...
I've caused more trouble for Jilin!

House of Clouds
SHI CHONG,
ARE YOU CRAZY?!
What should I do...?
LIU-ZHU

YOU ACTUALLY INSULTED LORD ZHAO BEFORE THE OTHER OFFICIALS
YOU, IN FRONT OF SO MANY WITNESSES,
MADE FUN OF THE LORD!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SINCE HE ASKED ME TO GIVE HIM MY "PEARL"
FROM THE SOUTHERN SEA
I MERELY FULFILLED HIS WISHES!
I GAVE IT TO HIM WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT
STOP LYING!
WE BOTH KNOW WHAT HE REALLY ASKED FOR!
HE WANTED LIUZHU!

CREAK...
YOU, TOO
I've already ordered that, beside Luuzhu, no one can come here.
...
!
LUUZHU?
BANG

That was close!
Thank god, she wasn't there, Luzhu!
MY LO...
MY LORD...

Transcendence
THUMP!
Wah!
HOW DARE YOU?
YOU'VE DISOBEYED MY ORDER
YOU ENTERED WITHOUT MY PERMISSION...

SPARE ME, MY LORD!
YOU ORDERED US TO DELIVER A LETTER WITH THIS WAXED SEAL TO YOU AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES,
REGARDLESS OF THE TIME OF THE DAY.
THIS IS
HEY!
wonderful!
This letter is what I've been waiting for!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING RIGHT NOW,
Yet you still have time to flirt
BUT I HOPE THAT YOU REMEMBER THAT LORD ZHAO IS AFTER YOUR BLOOD
SHI CHONG, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOUR FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE PROTECTING YOUR LIFE
SINCE WE'RE FRIENDS,
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE
Never Fade

OTHER-WISE
I, SHI CHONG, NEVER REGRET ANY OF MY ACTIONS SINCE I'VE ALREADY MADE MY DECISION,
I CAN'T BEG HIM FOR FORGIVENESS
WE SHOULDN'T WASTE OUR TIME ON THAT,
BUT I APPRE-CIATE YOUR OFFER
IT WOULD BE BEST TO APOLOGIZE TO LORD ZHAO
BEFORE THIS GETS OUT OF HAND
I'LL ALSO HELP YOU BEG LORD ZHAO FOR FORGIVENESS

AFTER HOLDING THE FEAST, I'M TIRED
I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE OUTCOME
IF YOU STILL WANT TO WALK AROUND THE GARDEN, PLEASE BE MY GUEST
GOOD NIGHT!
HEY...
...?
For now,
all our hopes will rely on that...
Hmph!
Hmph!
THAT IDIOT!
HE ACTUALLY ENRAGED LORD ZHAO...
FOR A WOMAN'S SAKE!

Never Fade
But wait,
that wax seal is very familiar. If I discover who sent it,
maybe I can gain Lord Zhao's favor.
AND I'LL SUFFER, TOO!
Before, the Jia Clan was the most powerful.
I helped Shi Shong only for my own benefit,
but now that the Queen of Jin has lost her power, if I don't cut my ties with them, then Lord Zhao will think we're allies...
HOLD ON...

LORD XIU,
PLEASE STAY FOR A MOMENT.
Who's there?
Rustle!
OH, IT'S ONLY YOU!
WHAT'S WRONG?
Smirk!

Never Fade

Zhao Mansion
Stomp stomp stomp—
Stomp stomp
Transcendence
MY LORD,
SHI CHONG WAS SO RUDE!
HE DARED TO EMBARRASS YOU IN PUBLIC!

DON'T BE AN IDIOT!
LET ME GATHER MY SOLDIERS AND SURROUND THE GOLDEN GROVE GARDEN
I'LL AVENGE YOU...
IF I KILL HIM NOW UNDER SUCH A POOR EXCUSE,
HOW COULD I KEEP THE OTHER OFFICIALS' LOYALTY?
SHI CHONG IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OFFICIALS IN THE GOVERNMENT

JUST WATCH
SHI CHONG CAN NEVER ESCAPE FROM ME!
HE'LL SURPASS EVEN YOU ONE DAY MY LORD!
IF EVERYTHING CONTINUES AS IT IS
BUT
I KNOW THAT SHI CHONG HAS OFFENDED YOU,
BUT RELAX I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO AVENGE YOURSELF
WANG KAI,

THEN, WE'LL CONCOCT AN EXCUSE TO THROW HIM IN JAIL
MY PLAN MIGHT TAKE A WHILE TO COMPLETE,
BUT AFTERWARDS, I'LL BE ABLE TO DO WHATEVER I WANT!
SHI CHONG, THE HUMILIATION YOU BROUGHT UPON ME TODAY... I'LL RETURN IT TO YOU TWICE AS HARSH!

To be continued in [Volume 4]

The forest blossoms have covered up twilight so quickly,
Enduring chilly rains in the morning and stormy winds at night.
Tears on rouge, mesmerized by our union – but when will we meet again?
Long regrets with longer days – this is life.

--The Reunion--

Extra 1 - Moon Fog

Petals will naturally drift away and waters will flow,
a type of longing whose frown rests between two brows.
Nothing can wash away this love;
yearning has just fallen out of the face but immediately returned upon the heart.
--A Branch of Plum Blossoms--

Extra 2 - Beauty from the Southern Sea

【第參卷】

珍珠怨

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